

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/725,032

Examiner

Sandra M. Nolan

Applicant(s)

SANADA ET AL.

Art Unit

1772

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the 07 February 2005 submission.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 18-20 and 22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 29 November 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

S. M. Nolan-Rayford
SANDRA M. NOLAN-RAYFORD
PRIMARY EXAMINER

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
2. Claims 18-20 and 22 are allowed.
3. The sole base claim, claim 18, can be summarized as follows:

Claim 18 covers an element a part of whose surface is provided with a polymer compound, wherein the polymer compound is a material that is:

(a) either solvent soluble or has a main skeletal structure different from a material from which a portion of the part of said surface is formed,

(b) comprised of a first part with a functional group and a second part with an interfacial energy different from that of the functional group and approximately equal to a surface energy of said part of said surface,

(c) obtained by:

(1) finely fractionalizing a polymer using a catalyst for cleaving the polymer to obtain fractionalized products (FP) comprising monomers and/or polymers of shorter length than the unfractionalized polymer,

(2) orienting the FP so that the second part is oriented toward said part of said surface and said first part is oriented in a direction different from that of the second part,

(3) bonding the oriented FP to each other, and

(d) provided on the surface after steps (1), (2) and (3),

wherein said part of said surface of said element is composed of an olefinic resin and said polymer compound is a polyalkylsiloxane with a hydrophilic group.

4. The prior art of record fails to teach or suggest elements having all of the features of claim 18.
5. The amendments and arguments in the 07 February 2005 response to the 06 December 2004 office action have overcome all rejections set out in that office action.

Art Unit: 1772

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

New Abstract and Substitute Specification

7. The abstract and substitute specification submitted on 01 July 2003 are acceptable. They have been recorded in the eDAN/IFW.

Citation as of Interest

8. Kennedy et al (US 5,856,392) is cited as teaching, in its abstract, polyisobutylene arms connected to condensed cyclosiloxane cores to make star polymers. It does not teach or suggest the treatment of surfaces using the reagents/steps of claim 18.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be addressed to Sandra M. Nolan-Rayford, at telephone number 571/272-1495. She can be reached Monday through Thursday, from 6:30 am to 4:00 pm, ET.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, contact her supervisor, Harold Pyon, at 571/272-1498.

The fax number for patent application documents is 703/872-9306.

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09725032(20050311)

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